MAR 2 2 7002 AND THE APPROPRIES APP

PATENT Attorney Docket No. HOOV 121

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Michael D. Hooven

Serial No.: 10/015,440

Filed: December 13, 2001

Examiner:

Art Unit: 3739

For: COMBINATION ABLATION AND

VISUALIZATION APPARATUS FOR ABLATING CARDIAC TISSUE

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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on <u>March 18, 2002</u>

Christine A. Barglik

Date: March 18, 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment in the aboveidentified patent application prior to substantive examination.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph 1 with the following paragraph:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is a division of application Serial No. 10/038,506, filed November 9, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 10/032,378, filed October 26, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/844,225,

filed April 27, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/747,609, filed December 22, 2000, which claims the benefit of provisional application Serial No. 60/200,072, filed April 27, 2000.--

REMARKS

This is a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified application. By this Amendment, serial numbers have been identified for related applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen B. Heller

Registration No. 30,181

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is a division of application Serial No. 10/038,506, filed November 9, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 10/032,378, filed October 26, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/844,225, filed April 27, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/747,609, filed December 22, 2000, which claims the benefit of provisional application Serial No. 60/200,072, filed April 27, 2000.--